

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

In the matter of Union Electric Company)
d/b/a AmerenUE's Purchased Gas)
Adjustment Factors to be Audited in its) Case No. GR-2006-0333
2005-2006 Actual Cost Adjustment.)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff ("Staff") of the Missouri Public Service Commission ("Commission") in the above-captioned matter and for its recommendation states as follows:

1. On February 22, 2006, Union Electric Company d/b/a Ameren UE (UE or Company), of St. Louis, Missouri, filed four (4) tariff sheets requesting an effective date of March 8, 2006.
2. These tariff sheets were filed to reflect changes in UE's Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) factors for each of its service territories as a result of estimated changes in the cost of natural gas for the remaining winter season.
3. The Company also filed a Motion for Expedited Treatment (Motion) requesting that the tariff sheets go into effect on March 1, 2006.
4. The Commission's Energy Department Staff (Staff) has reviewed this filing and recommends that the Commission approve the rates on the proposed tariff sheets. Please see Staff's Recommendation attached to this pleading.

5. Staff recommends immediate approval of this tariff sheet on less than thirty (30) days notice because of the need to assist Missouri consumers by promptly implementing a decrease in natural gas rates.

6. Staff recommends prompt approval of these rates on an interim subject to refund basis only, pending evaluation of the prudence of the Company's gas purchasing processes and procedures.

WHEREFORE, the Staff recommends that the Commission approve UE's requested tariff change to lower its PGA rate be effective on March 1, 2006, interim, subject to refund only.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Lera L. Shemwell

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing have been emailed, mailed, hand-delivered to all counsel of record this 24th day of February, 2006.

/s/ Lera L. Shemwell